

**THE CLEVELAND MUSEUM OF ART
CLEVELAND 6. OHIO**

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Paintings - European

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THE CLEVELAND PLAIN DEALER
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CLEVELAND OWNED PAINTINGS WILL GO TO FRANCE

Following a meeting at the White House just held in Washington it was announced that at the request of the French government a major exhibition of French 19th century paintings and drawings lent by American museums and private owners will be exhibited at the Orangerie in Paris from April 20 to July 5. Arrangements are being made by a committee of museum officials and collectors headed by the Hon. William A. M. Burden of New York, president of the Museum of Modern Art, who accepted the chairmanship at the request of the Hon. C. Douglas Dillon, United States Ambassador to France.

Organized in response to an invitation received last summer from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the exhibition is in line with President Eisenhower's expressed policy of promoting international good-will through the medium of cultural exchange. In a letter written to Mr. Burden on November 8th President Eisenhower wrote: "I am sure that this exhibition, demonstrating our deep appreciation of French artistic genius, will do much to strengthen the friendship, esteem, and warm understanding which have long existed between the United States and France."

The exhibition being assembled for showing in Paris will comprise approximately 60 paintings and 45 watercolors and drawings of the French school ranging in date from the early 19th century to the first decade of the 20th. On behalf of the committee Mr. Burden showed President Eisenhower an album of photographs and color reproductions indicative of the range and outstanding quality of works of art selected. They include many of the most famous and valuable paintings of the period in the United States, some of which have never been seen abroad since they were first acquired by American collectors.

The three paintings from Cleveland to be included in the exhibition are:

MME. PONTILLON by Berthe Morisot, LA FOND DE L'HERMITAGE by Camille Pissarro and
FRIEZE OF DANCERS by Degas.

Premier Mendes-France has expressed the greatest interest in the forthcoming exhibition, Ambassador Dillon disclosed at a press conference following the White House meeting. In a letter of November 2nd inviting Mr. Burden to organize an exhibition committee of eminent and representative members throughout the country, Ambassador Dillon wrote: "I believe that such an exhibition would contribute substantially to the prestige of the United States in France. It would demonstrate America's early appreciation of one of the great periods of French art which has profoundly affected the direction of Western culture in the past century. To fulfill these aims, the paintings included should be of the highest quality, revealing the exceptional connoisseurship of American collectors."

Harold T. Clark, President of the Cleveland Museum of Art, Leonard Hanna, Vice President of the Cleveland Museum of Art and William M. Milliken, Director of the Cleveland Museum of Art, are among the leading Museum officials of the United States who have been chosen by the President for this committee of eight connoisseurs - Mr. Henry Sayles Francis, Curator of Paintings and Prints at the Cleveland Museum of Art, is aiding the selection committee in choosing the outstanding drawings and watercolors which will be included in the exhibition.

In Paris the exhibition of 19th century masterworks will be housed at the Orangerie, a separate museum under the administration of the Louvre used by the French government for important loan exhibitions. It will be shown under the auspices of the Section of Arts and Letters of the Ministry of Education, the Cultural Relations Section of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and the Administration of the National Museums of France. Arrangements in France for the exhibition have been entrusted to the Association Francaise d'Action Artistique, an organization responsible for the exchange of art exhibitions between France and other nations, and will be worked out in conjunction with the United States Embassy in Paris.